

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 19-32 are currently pending. Claim 1 has been cancelled without prejudice; and Claims 19-32 have been added by the present amendment. The additions to the claims are supported by the originally filed specification and do not add new matter.

Consequently, an early and favorable examination of Claims 19-22 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

*Kurt M. Berger*

Eckhard H. Kuesters  
Attorney of Record  
Registration No. 28,870  
Kurt M. Berger, Ph.D.  
Registration No. 51,461

Customer Number  
**22850**

Tel: (703) 413-3000  
Fax: (703) 413-2220  
(OSMMN 08/03)

EHK/KMB/law  
I:\ATTY\KMB\250143US-PR.DOC